

ARTWORK SPECIFICATIONS & DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR CREATING A CUT FILE

Artwork:

- Our machines can only read **vector images**. (NO Jpegs or Bitmaps, except for photo engraving which works through a different process – good quality photos needed)
- We work in **CorelDrawX6** (we can open all previous versions).
- We can **import** the following formats: **AI, PDF, EPS, DXF, DWG, SVG**, (or any other vector format that can be imported into CorelDraw). These files must however be saved from the original program that the vector image was created in.

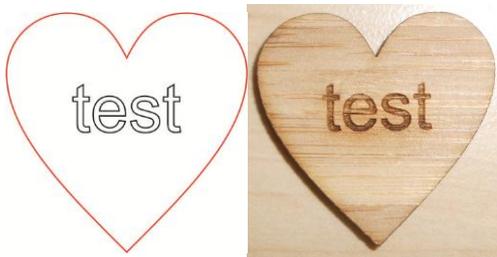
(FYI: Laser cutting or engraving is a completely different process than printing, & therefore our artwork requirements are completely different.)

Design:

- Drawings must be on a scale of 1:1 (i.e. it must be drawn in the exact size that it must be cut).
- Only **hairlines** to be used, **no fill colours**.
- Different line colours are used (**NB – Please use CMYK colour mode**):
RED lines for cutting (the machine cuts **on** the lines)
BLACK lines for engraving (the machine engraves **between** the lines)
BLUE lines for marking (the machine marks **on** the lines)

Examples:

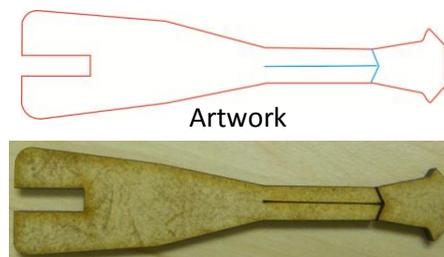
Cutting & Engraving



Artwork

Product

Cutting & Marking



Artwork

Product

- **NB:**
 - Lines must always be continuous (not broken up into pieces), or a “jagged” cut might result.
 - Lines for engraving must always be connected (nodes must be completely closed).
 - Lines must be single (not more than one layer).
 - Minimum spacing between cutting lines must be 1.5mm.
 - The maximum sheet size we can cut is 1200mm x 900mm.
 - Objects to be cut must be grouped together, spaced at least 3mm apart.
- **Cutting of printed sheets:** Cut files for printed sheets must align perfectly with the print files when placed on top of each other. Printing must have a small bleed area to provide for slight irregularities in cutting (unless outer colour is colour of paper). Corresponding registration marks must be present on the printed sheets, and in the cut files.
- **Please note that the machine reads ALL lines on the artwork.** You cannot “hide” lines underneath fill colours, or add a fill colour between two lines to make it look like one thick line. Different objects that needs to be cut as one must be welded together, or the machine will cut it separately. For these reasons it is extremely important to make sure there are **NO FILL COLOURS** in your cut file because that is how the machine will read it and cut it!